(b) if so, the comparative figures of economic growth and growth in employment and unemployment year after, over the last five years, indicating the number of unemployed and employment generation both in rural and urban sectors during these years; and

(c) the main reasons for the growing unemployment and the concrete steps proposed to be taken to deal with the menace ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) As per information furnished by Planning Commission, on the basis of latest comprehensive surveys available on Employment and Unemployment conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during 1987-88 (43rd round) and 1993-94 (50th round) the rate of unemployment in the country was as follows :

Unemployment rate* as per *Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS)*

1987-88	2.62
1993-94	1.90

*percentage to Labour Force.

Since, the unemployment rate has reduced during 1987—93, joblessness has not out stepped all economic growth.

Average annual growth rate (%) of employed persons as per Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS) during 1987-88 and 1993-94 is 2.43%. This implies a positive employment growth.

Identification of region with higher rates of unemployment

2991. SHRI AHMED PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have identified the regions which have higher rates of unemployment and under employment in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the prevailing scenario in these regions; and

(d) the remedial measures Government propose to take to improve the situation in these region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) In the 9th Plan, priority was given to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty.

Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and under-employment.

A regional perspective on employment has been attempted in the 9th Plan under the assumption of a uniform step up of economic growth across all states, which indicates variations in development of employment situation in the 9th Plan period. The balance between labour force and work opportunities in the 9th Plan is expected to improve in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and West Bengal resulting in a decrease in unemployment in these states. On the other hand, the states of Bihar, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh face the prospect of an increase in unemployment as labour force increases by more than the increase in work opportunities. Moreover, on the top of the increased backlog of unemployment in the 9th Plan, the expansion of labour force in the post 9th Plan period in the states of Bihar, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh is at an even higer pace than in the 9th Plan.

The main reasons behind rising unemployment in some of the states is that the balance between labour force and employment opportunities will vary across the regions. There is mis-match in the spatial pattern of job creation and labour force growth.

Given the fact that agriculture contributes three fourths of the job increase in these states, any attempt at improving the lot of workers in this sector has to be based on a reorientation of agricultural growth. The magnitude of workers in agriculture in these states is large i.e., 69 to 74% of workforce. To absorb a substantial part of the agricultural workers in the secondary sector, an alternative strategy of economic diversification, manufacturing and related services sectors in these states will be required in order to step up growth. The sectors which will have employment generating potential in future are agriculture and allied sectors, rural non-farm sector, industry, information technology, tourism etc.

Education and skill development will empower people to take advantage of employment opportunities. Special programmes will be implemented to develop skills, enhance technological levels and provide marketing channels for people engaged in traditional occupations.

Violation of labour laws

2992. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the statutory provisions meant for the protection of the labour interests are not being implemented by many industrial units;

(b) whether Government are aware that M/s Super Springs and M/s Garima Springs at D-235, Sector-10, Noida have been violating labour laws with impunity and have not been providing minimum wages, gratuity, provident fund and ESI facilities to its employees;

(c) the action being taken against these companies including their seizure and penal action;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Report of Centre of Concern for Child Labour

2993. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "32 million child labourers in India" as reported in Statesman dated 4th April, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Centre of Concern for Child Labour has recently submitted a detailed report to Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the further steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) Government has noted